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## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:

Gregory E. Sancoff et al.

Serial No.:

10/014,991

Filing Date:

12/11/2001

Title:

SURGICAL SUTURING INSTRUMENT

AND METHOD OF USE

Group Art Unit:

3731

I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THIS CORRESPONDENCE IS BEING DEPOSITED WITH THE UNITED STATES POSTAL SERVICE AS FIRST CLASS MAIL,

Examiner:

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Attorney's Docket No.:

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MAY 2, 2002

(DATE OF DEPOSIT

(DATE OF SIGNATURE)

James A. S

Assistant Commissioner for Patents

Washington, D.C. 20231

Q. Sprida 5

1144 2, 2002

Sir:

## PETITION FOR AUTOMATIC EXTENSION OF TIME TO RESPOND

Applicants hereby petition for a two (2) month extension of time to respond to the outstanding NOTICE TO FILE CORRECTED APPLICATION PAPERS - FILING DATE GRANTED mailed January 2, 2002 with respect to the above-identified patent application, thereby extending the time for response from March 2, 2002 to May 2, 2002.

A check in the amount of \$200.00 is enclosed to cover the cost of the petition fee. This petition fee has been calculated on the basis of a Small Entity status.

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In the event that any additional fees may be required to be paid in connection with this matter, please charge the same, or credit any overpayment, to Deposit Account No. 16-0221.  $\underline{A}$  duplicate copy of this Petition is enclosed for the convenience of the Office.

Thank you.

Respectfully submitted,

James a. Sheridan 5/2/02

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